

# **Internal and External Evaluation**

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The word assessment refers to a systematic process of collecting, understanding, and acting upon the data related to a student. Furthermore, this data help in understanding the students learning about what they know and what they do not know. Also, the performance of a student is done on the basis of their educational experience. Besides, internal assessment refers to the evaluation of the performance of students on the basis of their internal performance. On the other hand, external assessment refers to the evaluation of student's performance by outside persons like boards.

## **Internal Evaluation**

The new concept of educational evaluation includes not only quantitative evaluation done externally but qualitative appraisal done by the teachers concern also. Evaluation of learning behavioural changes qualitatively by way of internal judgment is known as Internal Evaluation. By internal evaluation the effectiveness of the instructions imparted also assessed along with the level of achievement of the learner. It can also be used for the continuous appraisal of students' progress during a particular period. But it is important that, the Internal evaluation is not a substitute for the traditional annual external examination. The Internal evaluation should be continuous and comprehensive. The system of internal evaluation has to be so organised as to help us in changing attitudes of the students favourably towards motivated and active participation in day to day programs associated with their education. Internal evaluation should as objective and biased as possible, for which it should based on their performance in a number of items such as the records of written test, oral tests, practical tests, home work , as well as participation in seminar, discussion, projects etc. Pooling of the results of observation by the various teachers, done with the help of checklists, rating scale etc. will be immense help for assessing personal and social qualities.

A teacher should provide as many activities as possible and maintain detailed records about the nature of participation of each student.

### **Advantages**

1. Evaluation based on mere rote memory of the student can be avoided.
2. Help to minimize the over anxiety and nervousness among the students at the time of evaluation.
3. Motivation to active participation in both curricular and non-curricular activities.
4. Help in identifying the strength and weakness of the student in the various aspects and to impart remedial instructions if necessary.
5. It is a universally accepted principal that one who imparts instruction is the best person to assess the students. Internal evaluation makes this possible.
6. Sometimes people are more willing to speak to insiders than to outsiders.
7. An internal evaluation will cost less than an external evaluation.

### **Disadvantages**

1. The evaluation team may have a vested interest in reaching positive conclusions about the work or organization. For this reason, other stakeholders, such as donors, may prefer an external evaluation.
2. The team may not be specifically skilled or trained in evaluation.
3. The evaluation will take up a considerable amount of organizational time – while it may cost less than an external evaluation, the opportunity costs may be high.

### **External evaluation**

This is the evaluation that is carried out by someone who is not directly involved in the development or operation of the system being evaluated, i.e. by someone from outwith the project team. An educationist **Kushner**, have added that “external evaluation is an intervention conducted by entities and/or individuals outside the donor and implementing agencies.” It is done to give students the required certificate or degree or diploma for which the students have applied.

### **Advantages**

1. The evaluation is likely to be more objective as the evaluators will have some distance from the work.
2. The evaluators should have a range of evaluation skills and experience.
3. Sometimes people are more willing to speak to outsiders than to insiders.
4. Using an outside evaluator gives greater credibility to findings, particularly positive findings.

### **Disadvantages**

1. Someone from outside the organization or project may not understand the culture or even what the work is trying to achieve.
2. Those directly involved may feel threatened by outsiders and be less likely to talk openly and cooperate in the process.
3. External evaluation can be very costly.
4. An external evaluator may misunderstand what you want from the evaluation and not give you what you need.

The above discussion concludes therefore that the 'Great House' of evaluation should have room for internal and external evaluators if it wishes to continue to grow. The evaluation remains critical regardless which evaluator undertakes the process of evaluation advantages and disadvantages that both play independent role in programme evaluation.

**The End**